

CIA Turkey

Senate Votes to Make \$50 Million for Turkey a Grant

by **GRAHAM HOVEY**
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WASHINGTON, May 22 — The Senate sustained President Carter and decisively overrode its own Foreign Relations Committee today in approving a grant rather than a loan of \$50 million to Turkey for arms and military equipment.

In an action that cut across party and ideological lines, the Senate voted 64 to 32 for an amendment to the \$4.4 billion security assistance bill that restored the \$50 million grant requested by Mr. Carter.

The Foreign Relations Committee had substituted a loan, with delayed repayment terms for the grant, partly because Congress is trying to phase out grant aid and partly because senators wanted to rebuke Turkey for some recent foreign policy moves.

A four-hour debate focused on the questions of whether a grant or a loan would be more likely to produce constructive action by Turkey on a Cyprus settlement, on reintegrating Greek forces into the NATO command and on providing listening posts in Turkey for the United States to monitor Soviet compliance with the new strategic arms limitation treaty.

Sarbanes Leads Opposition

Opponents of the grant, led by Senator Paul S. Sarbanes, Democrat of Maryland, emphasized that Turkey had blocked Greece's reintegration into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and cited a statement by the Turkish Cypriot leader, Rauf Denktash, that he and his Greek Cypriot counterpart, President Spyros Kyprianou, were "180 degrees apart" on a Cyprus solution, although they did agree over the weekend to resume negotiations.

Mr. Sarbanes, a leader of the Greek-American community who originally opposed even the loan, said the Ankara Government had made no concessions on either Cyprus or Greek reintegration since last July when Congress ended an arms embargo imposed on Turkey after its invasion of Cyprus in August 1974. In the legislation lifting the embargo, Congress stipulated that Turkish cooperation on these issues would heavily influence future aid.

In the roll-call, however, 32 Democrats and 32 Republicans supported the arguments of the amendment's authors. Majority Leader Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia and Senator John H. Chafee, Republican of Rhode Island, that Turkey's economic and military needs were desperate and its contribution to NATO indispensable.

Turkey's Role in Arms Pact

Mr. Byrd said, in a floor speech, that the grant for Turkey should not be construed as an action against Greece. He said aid for Turkey would improve not only its own security but also that of Greece, of NATO and of United States allies in the Middle East.

The Majority Leader said he had been "very encouraged" by the report that the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities had agreed to resume negotiations on the island's future and by recent reports that progress was also being made on Greece's reintegration into NATO.

Mr. Byrd said the American military installations in Turkey were "of major importance in the monitoring of Soviet strategic activities" and would be "of obvious significance" in verifying Soviet compliance with the strategic arms treaty.

On a related matter, he said the State Department had told him that, contrary to press reports, Turkey had not said that the Soviet Union would be given a veto on American U-2 flights over Turkey for the purposes of verifying that treaty.

New York Senators Split

The lineup of the vote on the Byrd-Chafee amendment was unusual in that most fiscal conservatives in the Senate supported the grant rather than the loan, while liberals and a few conservatives, including Senator Bob Dole of Kansas, a candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination, backed the loan and the Foreign Relations Committee.

New York's Senators divided on the issue. Senator Jacob K. Javits, the ranking Republican on the Foreign Relations Committee, supported the loan proposal

of which he was an author. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Democrat, voted for the grant.

If the Senate action is sustained in the final version of the bill that emerges from a Senate-House conference committee, Turkey will get \$451.2 million in economic and military aid from this bill alone.

Overall, Turkey will receive \$678.7 million in all kinds of assistance from the United States over two fiscal years ending Sept. 30, 1980, making Turkey the

third largest recipient of American aid, trailing only Israel and Egypt.

The Administration also hopes that a consortium of West European countries and Japan, being organized by West Germany, will raise at least a billion dollars for Turkey over the next year.

Earlier in the day, the Senate rejected, 58 to 34, an amendment by Senator William Proxmire, Democrat of Wisconsin, that would have eliminated \$45 million in aid to Syria.